of various food articles under the provisions of the said Act & Rules. Action is taken against the offenders where samples of food articles do not conform to the prescribed standards.

(c) To educate people about the harmful effects of adulteration in food, a strategy has been developed under the Wolrd Bank assisted Capacity Building Project for Food and Drugs.

Booklets/pamphlets namely "Quick test for some adulterants in food" and "Tips to consumers" have been published and disseminated.

Awareness programmes on Food Safety aspects are being telecast from Doordarshan and 8 Regional Kendras under the 'Kalyani' programme.

Reducing Tobacco Consumption

502. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total consumption of tobacco in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to minimize the consumption of tobacco in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The data relating to total consumption of tobacco products in the country is not available. As per the Report on Tobacco Control in India, the domestic un-manufactured tobacco consumption in India was approx. 4,88,130 tonnes in 2002-2003. The consumption of cigarettes during the above period was approx. 9.12 crore sticks.

(b) and (c) With a view to discourage the consumption of tobacco in all forms, a comprehensive Act, namely, "The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" was enacted in May, 2003. The important provisions of the Act are:—

I. Prohibition of smoking in a public place.

II. Prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement of cigarette and other tobacco products.

III. Prcubition of sale of cigarette and other tobacco products to a person below the age of eighteen years.

IV. Prohibition of sale of tobacco products near the educational institutions.

V. Mandatory depiction of statutory warnings (including pictorial warnings) on tobacco packs.

VI. Mandatory depiction of tar and nicotine contents alongwith maximum permissible limits on tobacco packs.

The Government has already notified detailed Rules in respect of provisions (i) to (v) above.

CGHS facility in Himachal Pradesh for civilian pensioners

503. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CGHS facility is available in all cities of the country for civilian pensioners;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would contemplate to provide CGHS facility in all cities/towns of the Himachal Pradesh in view of the old age and deteriorating health of retired employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of steps taken likely to be taken by Government for looking after the health of retired employees in a better way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) CGHS facilities are available only in 24 cities throughout the country for Central Government pensioners. There is no proposal in the 10th Five Year Plan to open/provide CGHS facilities in the cities/towns of the Himachal Pradesh.

However, for the retired Central Government employees residing in non-CGHS areas, there is a provision for Medical Allowance of Rs. 100 per month under CS (MA) Rules.